

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 NSF-04 NASA-04 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 RSC-01 /096 R

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DRAFTED BYSCI/AE:JLBOLOM:DRW

APPROVED BY SCI/AE:JLBLOOM

NSF - HBIRNBAUM

NASA - RLAROCK (INFO)

NEA/IRN - BMORTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS STATE 113061

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ENRG, TECH, IR, TGEN, IR

SUBJECT: SOLAR ENERGY

REF: TEHRAN 04088

1. DEPT. HAS OBTAINED FURTHER INFO FROM NATIONAL SCIENCE
FOUNDATION ON TWO DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED IN AP STORIES.

2. FIRST PROJECT INVOLVES WORK BY DR. BRUCE CHALMERS,
HARVARD U., AND DR. A.I. MLAVSKY (NOTE NSF SPELLING OF
NAME), TYCO LABORATORIES, WALTHAM, MASS. PROJECT IS
JOINTLY SPONSORED BY NSF AND NASA WITH TOTAL FUNDING
OVER TWO-YEAR PERIOD IN EXCESS OF \$765,000. UNIVERSITY-
INDUSTRY TEAM HAS DEMONSTRATED PROCESS FOR GROWING
SILICON RIBBONS UP TO SIX FEET IN LENGTH BY ONE INCH
WIDE BY TEN MILS THICK BY CONTINUOUS EXTRUSION OF MOLTEN
SILICON THROUGH SPECIAL DIE. NSF SEES PROCESS AS ONE
LEADING TO PRODUCTION OF SILICON SOLAR CELLS ON LARGE
SCALE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL BUILDINGS OR SMALL GROUPS
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OF BUILDINGS BY 1985-1990 TIME PERIOD. FURTHER DETAILS

IN FORM OF NSF PRESS RELEASE BEING AIR POUCHED TO SCICOUNS.

3. SECOND PROJECT, AT U. OF CHICAGO AND ARGONNE, IS JUST BEGINNING UNDER NSF GRANT. IT INVOLVES ADAPTION OF FOCUSING LENS, CONCEIVED ORIGINALLY FOR CONCENTRATING CHERENKOV (BLUE LIGHT) RADIATION FROM NUCLEAR REACTOR

CORE, TO SOLAR ENERGY COLLECTION. FYI: NSF DOES NOT BELIEVE PROJECT CONSTITUTES A BREAKTHROUGH AT PRESENT TIME.

4. IF GOI HAS MAJOR INTEREST IN THESE PROJECTS, WE SUGGEST THAT CONTACTS BE HANDLED THROUGH GOVERNMENTAL CHANNELS, I.E., DEPT.-NSF-NASA. BROWN

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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: JLBOLOM:DRW
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To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
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